



Late Summer Boost Series

LOOK UP

Unpacking the Spiritual, Practical
and Tactical Approaches Around
Antisemitism

Notes from Adrienne Gold Davis's Session

Monday, August 19, 2024

It is better to be in a state of honest discomfort than a comfortable delusion. We thought it had missed our generation, that the statute of limitations from the Shoah continued....but we were wrong.

'The antisemite does not accuse the Jew of stealing because he thinks he stole something. He does it because he enjoys watching the Jew turn out his pockets to prove his innocence.'

Being popular is not a Jewish value. Being true to God's Covenant is.

King Louis XIV once had an interesting discussion with the famous 17th century Roman Catholic philosopher and mathematician, Blaise Pascal. The king asked Pascal to show him evidence of the supernatural, and Pascal responded. "The Jews, Your Majesty, the Jews!"

Mark Twain who wrote an essay called "Concerning the Jews" (The Complete Essays of Mark Twain, p. 249):

"The Egyptian, the Babylonian, the Persian, rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream stuff and passed away. The Greek and the Roman followed, made a vast noise and they are gone. Other peoples have sprung up, held their torch high for a time, but it burned out and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished. The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal, but the Jew. All other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

Leo Tolstoy, a believing Christian, also wonders about this. He writes (Jewish World, London, 1908:

“The Jew is the emblem of eternity. He whom neither slaughter, nor torture of thousands of years could destroy, he whom neither fire, nor sword, nor inquisition was able to wipe off the face of the earth; he who was the first to produce the oracle of God, he who has been for so long the guardian of prophecy and who transmitted it to the rest of the world. Such a nation cannot be destroyed. The Jew is as everlasting as eternity itself.”

AYEKA (WHERE ARE YOU???) HINEINI (HERE I AM)

JEWISH PEOPLE ARE ETERNAL

In Bereishis (Genesis)17:7, God promises Abraham that the Jewish people will be eternal. God says:

“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you, throughout the generations, an eternal covenant to be your God, and the God of your descendants after you.”

"That they shall know that I am God, when I scatter them among the nations and disperse them over foreign lands." (Yechezkel 12:15)

We have survived thousands of years of turbulent exile. This was predicted beforehand!

"Among those nations, you shall find no respite, no rest for your foot, for there the Lord will give you an anguished heart and wasted eyes and a dismayed spirit. You will live in constant suspense, and stand in dread, both by day and by night, never sure of your existence." (Devarim. 28:65-67)

"You will remain few in number, whereas you could have become as numerous as the stars of the heavens, because you would not obey the voice of God, your Lord." (Devarim 28:62)

From Sara Rigler The Spiritual Roots of Antisemitism

On God's side, He promised:

That the Jewish people will never cease to exist (Genesis 17:7).

That He will never totally abandon the Jewish people (Leviticus 26:44).

That the Jewish people will inherit the Land of Israel (Genesis 12:7; Genesis 15:18).

On Israel's side, we promised:

That we will be faithful to God and keep His Torah (Exodus 24:7).

Unlike most covenants, this one is unconditional. Even if Israel reneges on its obligation, God, in the merit of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, will never annul His Covenant with us.